



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

MAY 30 2014

Ref: 8ENF-UFO

CERTIFIED MAIL 7008-3230-0003-0727-5409
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. J D Horrocks
Newfield Exploration Company
Route 3, Box 3630
Myton, UT 84052

Re: Underground Injection Control (UIC)
Notice of Violation:
Loss of Mechanical Integrity
10 Wells
Duchesne and Uintah Counties, UT

Dear Mr. Horrocks:

During routine UIC well inspections on May 20, 21 and 22, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) observed conditions at ten Newfield Exploration Company injection wells that are consistent with loss of mechanical integrity. Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 144.51(q)(1) (40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(1)), you must establish and maintain mechanical integrity. A loss of mechanical integrity is a violation of this requirement. The wells and the observed casing pressures are listed in the table below.

Date	Well	Permit Number	Observed Casing Pressure	Comments
5/21/14	Federal 2A-35-8-17	UT22197-10175	50 psig	Possible hole in tubing
5/20/14	Tar Sands Federal 6-30-8-17	UT22197-09602	0 psig	Shut in for tubing leak
5/20/14	Federal 6-19-8-18	UT22197-10174	200 psig	Shut in for possible hole in tubing
5/20/14	Balcron Monument Federal 11-22Y-8-17	UT22197-10203	0 psig	Tagged out – possible hole in tubing
5/20/14	Boundary Federal 8-21-8-17	UT22197-10154	1225 psig	Possible hole in tubing
5/22/14	Federal DMD 17-1-9-17	UT22197-09942	30 psig	Testing casing
5/22/14	Monument State 13-16B-9-17	UT22197-04310	1400 psig	Possible hole in tubing
5/22/14	Federal 7-20-9-17	UT22197-09675	280 psig	Possible hole in tubing
5/22/14	Lone Tree Federal 5-22-9-17	UT22197-09443	1320 psig	Tagged out – possible hole in tubing
5/22/14	Lone Tree Federal 2-21-9-17	UT22197-10198	500 psig	Well tagged for possible hole in tubing

Pursuant to the above-referenced UIC Permit and the regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 144.51(q)(2), you must immediately cease injection into these wells. Before injection may resume, you must demonstrate that

the wells have mechanical integrity by passing a mechanical integrity test (MIT). You must also receive written authorization from the EPA.

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter, please submit a letter describing what action you intend to take regarding the wells, including a time frame in which you anticipate the work to be completed. It is expected that you will return these wells to compliance within ninety (90) days of the loss of mechanical integrity.

If you choose to plug and abandon this well, a plugging and abandonment plan must be submitted to the EPA for approval prior to the plugging operation.

Failure to comply with the UIC regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Parts 144 through 148 constitutes one or more violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h. Such non-compliance may subject you to formal enforcement by the EPA, as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, you may contact Sarah Roberts at (303) 312-7056. Please direct all correspondence to the attention of Sarah Roberts at Mail Code 8ENF-UFO.

Sincerely,



Mark Chalfant, Acting Director
UIC/FIFRA/OPA Technical Enforcement Programs

cc: Gordon Howell, Chairman
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